It is a little less than three o'clock in the morning, this July 19, when Anissa, 19, and her companion, Dorian, cross the road of a group of teenagers in the Place du Capitole, in downtown Toulouse (Haute-Garonne). Four of them then attack the young couple. Hans Lucas via AFP / Frederic Scheiber

Shock

Young woman disfigured in Toulouse: an outburst of violence at the futile mobile

By Paul Conge

Published on 21/07/2023 at 19:15

Anissa, a 19-year-old woman, suffered an ultra-violent attack in downtown Toulouse on the night of July 18 to 19, reveals "La Dépêche du Midi". Struck with bottle shards all over the body, it has more than 50 stitches. Did his attackers target him because of his "inappropriate" dress? According to the initial evidence of the investigation, the facts are confusing.

Disfigured for life for a futile motif. It is a little less than three o'clock in the morning, this July 19, when Anissa, 19, and her companion, Dorian, cross the road of a group of teenagers in the Place du Capitole, in downtown Toulouse (Haute-Garonne). Four of them quarrel with the young couple: two girls, aged 14 and 16, and two boys, aged 16 and 17. To their misplaced words follow the insults. Then the blows. One of the young people rushes over Anissa, breaks his nose. One of the girls grabs a glass bottle, the breeze, and uses it to beat her in the face, neck, shoulders, arm and back. Before the other minor hits Anissa in turn, she too with a bottle shard.

During this uneven gun fight, Dorian and one of his friends were injured by the two boys. The time that the municipal police, alerted by the video surveillance system, arrives on the spot, Anissa is on the ground, in blood. The four attackers, alcoholic, very unfavorably known to the

police, are immediately arrested. Anissa is rushed to Purpan Hospital, where she is stitched up all night. Fifty stitches. The photos she posted the next day on social networks show the unleashing of violence she suffered, multiple wounds and deep snudges constelling her body. *"I hope justice will be done,"* she said. *"In* shock", she does not wish to speak, confides her companion to *Marianne*.

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This scene of ultraviolence, revealed by La Dépêche du Midi on July 21, is experiencing a dazzling impact on social networks. Mainly because of a massively recovered element: the four attackers would have attacked Anissa *"for a dress that was not* suitable". A point highlighted by a tweet from the newspaper and many commentators. Anissa seems to corroborate this point herself, taking up some of these tweets on her Twitter and Instagram accounts. The unbearable gap between the mobile and the seriousness of this unworthy aggression and the reactions come from both sides of the political chessboard. The mayor (right) of Toulouse, Jean-Luc Moudenc, denounces a *"savage and barbaric violence".* Danielle Simonnet, Member of Parliament for Insoumise France (LFI), is engaged in *a "sexist aggression of unprecedented* violence".

CIGARETTE AND MISINTERPRETED REMARKS

Is it for this blue tank top that she wore, revealing her navel, that Anissa was targeted that night? In a statement issued on July 21 in the day, the prosecutor of the Republic of Toulouse, Samuel Vuelta-Simon, is more cautious. He believes that *"the origin of the altercation is confusing",* referring to a *"cigarette request",* an *"exchange of glances"* or *"misinterpreted remarks". "The verbal tension has risen very quickly, to*

the point of triggering a fight," adds the magistrate. For the moment, the Toulouse prosecutor's office has opened an investigation for *"violence with* weapons", without retaining a gender-based qualification.

At a minimum, the mobile seems blurry. According to a source close to the file, if remarks about Anissa's clothes were indeed made, they mixed with other insults and inappropriate remarks, and were not *"determinant"* in the passage to the act of the attackers. There is also widespread confusion among the victims, each of whom emphasizes different elements. On her Instagram account, which *Marianne* consulted, Dorian confines himself to saying that they would have been taken to task by *"about fifteen people",* Anissa had been particularly targeted. *"A young man ... broke her nose and fought with us,"* he said, adding that she was then *"shot by a bottle shard in several parts of the body by a 15-year-old* girl." It was later, in the text of his pot Ulule in support of his girlfriend, created on July 21, that he nevertheless adds that their four attackers would have found his outfit *« vulgaire »*"vulgar".

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"The problem is how is it that, at 3 o'clock in the morning, two people

are assaulted with unprecedented violence, causing 50 stitches?", moves master Hélène Pronost, lawyer for the victims, *adding: "This young girl will wear these stigmas for the rest of her life on her body, and on her* face" A cataclysm for Anissa who dreams of modeling. The four attackers were all referred and indicted. The most violent of the band, aged 16, was placed in pre-trial detention, awaiting trial by a juvenile court in Toulouse on August 17.